

Telephone

26th July, 1974

Jan Berris,
Associate Program Director of the
National Committee of the United States - China Relations,
777 United Nations Plaza,
New York, N.Y. 10017 Tel: 212 682 6848

Jan Berris called asking for a meeting of educators to plan the educational exploitation of the Exhibition. She requested a date of August 12th, which was impossible for L. Sickman. She is now considering a date early in September.

Mr. Sickman told Miss Berris that he would like to have Marc Wilson attend this meeting.

25th July, 1974

Charles Parkhurst called. Subject: shipping of the Chinese show from Washington to Kansas City. He stated that inasmuch as the Washington exhibition is being sponsored by IBM, they are not accepting the offer of Pan Am to deliver it from Toronto to Washington free of charge.

They are using Pan Am; however, but paying for the trip.

L. Sickman told him that in our conversations with Alex Lacy, the latter expressed the wish that our entire support come from the NEH rather than requesting any funds from IBM.

It was then Mr. Lacy's hope that Pan-Am would offer to bring the exhibition from Washington to Kansas City free of charge and then on from Kansas City to Peking under the same arrangement. Mr. Parkhurst said that he would transfer this information to officials of Pan-Am.

26th July, 1974

Jan Berris called again. There will be a meeting in the Conference Room on the 1st floor of the NEH building at 10 o'clock, August 12th.

Conversation with Charles Parkhurst and others, National Gallery, 9.19.74.

Delivery of Exhibition from Washington to Kansas City

1. The pallets in aircraft are of two types: one properly called the Vietnam type is no good; the other type should be employed as it is much easier to unload.
2. Six seats should be reserved on each plane. The shipment accompanied by one representative of the Gallery, our Registrar, armed guards, (probably Sky Marshalls), and two or three Chinese from the Archaeological exhibition.
3. On arrival. Unloading area must be completely isolated and with security guards. Plane should be met by museum and possibly city officials.
4. Two or possibly three crews will be needed for unloading; one to remove the pallets from the aircraft, one to unload the cases from the pallets, and a third crew for loading the cases onto two trailer trucks. Trucks must be accompanied by armed security guards from the airfield to the Gallery. A covered area should be provided for unloading in case the weather is inclement.

Procedure for Opening Cases

Whether in the storage or in the galleries prepared for the installation of the specific objects, there should be set up an unpacking line. The opening crew includes two men and there should be a clean-up man. Each case is locked with two locks. The Gallery Registrar will have one set of keys for one lock, the Chinese curators for another.

Each object has a Chinese fitted box. These fitted boxes are packed in excelsior. The inner box is wrapped and tied. The object within the box is also wrapped. There should be a clean-up man to clean up and carry away the excelsior, string and paper wrappings as each object is exposed. The unwrapped object is then placed on an inspection table. The Gallery Registrar is furnished with a condition book, and checks the object against the appropriate photograph. If any change in condition is noted, a polaroid photograph is taken. The object is then passed on to the Chinese curator who makes his own condition inspection.

After this the object should be placed in a padded tray on a dolly, moved to the exhibition case, and installed.

Once the case is installed it is locked and sealed, not to be opened until the close of the exhibition.

The person who checked the security arrangements at the National Gallery is Mr. Ch'i Mai Hsieh of the PRC Liaison Mission in Washington.

2nd October, 1974

Charles Parkhurst called this afternoon, about three subjects.

1. What about sharing the catalogue?

He had not heard about the grant from the NEH announcement. They have a meeting with all the State Department people every Wednesday morning. None of them knew about the grant announcement today. We certainly want to share the official Chinese catalogue, at 20¢ to 30¢ unit cost. Mr. Parkhurst asked how many we wanted.

A catalogue that we published could be used after the show, if there were a surplus, whereas the official catalogue could not. In Toronto, their own catalogue was for sale together with the official Chinese catalogue.

In Stockholm, in six weeks, they sold out 28,000 of their own catalogues long before the end of the show. They had 160,000 visitors.

Mr. Sickman will call Charles Parkhurst tomorrow and tell him we want 25,000 of the official Chinese catalogue. These are to be sold with our catalogue, which will cost \$4.00.

2. The Packers.

Wingate and Johnson asked the National Gallery to pay \$15,000 for packing and unpacking the show. Mr. Sickman said that would be much too high. If they would do both shows (here and Washington) for \$15,000 it would cost us \$7,500. The Chinese have confidence in Wingate and Johnson. Parkhurst is writing to W. & J. offering them \$15,000 for the two shows. If they refuse, the National Gallery will do their own.

3. The Two Cases from Toronto.

The National Gallery wants to buy the case for the jade suit and the one for the horses. Toronto will sell them at half price - \$6,000 for the two. If the National Gallery buys them it will cost them \$6,000, then they will either sell them to us at half price, or rent them for \$3,000. This means they will lose the cases, which have to be bought with Government money. The government charges

\$6,000 against the National Gallery. If we use the cases and pay the National Gallery \$3,000 it goes back to the government. They want us to buy the cases for \$6,000, then sell or rent them to the National Gallery for \$3,000, in which case the money would go to the National Gallery. The problem with these cases is there are only twelve days between the National Gallery closing and our opening. They should try and pack the jade suit and horses first and get them on the truck, to get them here in time. Would it be cheaper to make our own cases? It is worth considering. The carriers from Toronto to Washington, Washington to Kansas City, and Kansas City to Peking are completely up in the air. The draft from the State Department mentions Pan Am, but that is out now, however this is up to Washington, not us.

On the question of sharing posters, Charles Parkhurst will get his head of printing to telephone Ross Taggart and talk to him. Per-Olow Leijon gave Marc the information about transparencies being sent to Mrs. Forsyth of the National Gallery. Can we use the same prints for the horse? Could these be printed in Stockholm with the plates they already have?

John Hand

Cher

We will have to pay for the plates. Two sizes are plenty. It would be fine to have it done in Sweden.

Marc should write Per-Olow immediately and ask him about this. Mr. Sickman will talk to Ross.

Mr. Sickman said the catalogue is still up in the air because we have not heard anything about the copyright from Vienna. Charles Parkhurst said to call Solmssen tomorrow and put the heat on him.

Meredith Palmer called and said they are working on the copyright. Their attorneys will get in touch with Menefee Blackwell. As soon as they have the necessary legal information they will cable their Embassy in Vienna.

8th October, 1974

Charles Parkhurst telephoned this morning. They have decided not to use the English packers, Wingate and Johnson, and have informed them as such, and Parkhurst will send us a copy of the letter.

They are waiting for their catalogue to be cleared, but it has to be done from Peking, and they haven't heard anything about that.

They also are preparing their room labels, and if those are cleared by the Chinese, Parkhurst sees no reason they should not be used by us - the same ones. The two exhibitions are not separate exhibitions but are the same exhibition in tandem, going from one place to another, so that material cleared for one exhibition should be useable by the other.

Toronto hopes to be able to make a set of direct slides. They will not be ready in time for the National Gallery, but may be ready in time for us. We should get in touch with Barbara Stephen.

22nd January, 1975

Memorandum on telephone conversation with Charles Parkhurst.

He thinks it would be a courtesy if somewhere in our catalogue we indicate it was a joint exhibition between the National Gallery and the Nelson Gallery. They think it would be a nice gesture if we would print the Board of Trustees of the National Gallery. Frank Tenney need not be on our list, nor ~~Alexander Eekstein~~. I should check with Peter Solmssen on the Committee of Honor and see if we should not include Secretary Kissinger, and if so, where should his name go.

Our list should be arranged alphabetically.

The National Gallery would like to have returned at the earliest possible date the black and white negatives as well as the color transparencies. They have made an arrangement with the Chinese Liaison Office that photographs from the black and white negatives can be supplied to interested scholars, and also an arrangement is made whereby publication rights can be secured by such scholars from the Liaison Office.

Cot-
Parkhurst

CAT

20th February, 1975

Charles Parkhurst, Esq.,
Assistant Director,
National Gallery of Art,
6th St. and Constitution Ave., N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20565

Dear Chuck,

Many thanks for sending the information concerning photographs of objects.

As I told you on the phone, Marc and I will be in Washington the 26th and 27th. We have a lunch and early afternoon meeting with the people from the State Department on the 26th, otherwise the morning of the 26th, the afternoon of the 26th, and the 27th we are free at your convenience.

I am attaching a list of the people in your bailiwick we would particularly like to see, some of them only very briefly.

In any case I will telephone you Wednesday morning to see when you might be able to fit us in to what I am sure is a very busy schedule.

All the best.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

Charles Parkhurst

Joe English

Robert Amory, Jr.

[Gaillard Ravenel]

Margaret Bouton

*Tapes
Color Trans.*

Katherine Warwick

[Theodore Amussen]

Parkhurst-

March 4, 1975

Mr. Charles Parkhurst
Assistant Director
National Gallery of Art
Sixth and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20565

Dear Chuck:

As you know, arrangements are quickly falling into place for the Kansas City and San Francisco legs of the Chinese Exhibition, and those of us at the Department are trying to assist whenever possible. The Nelson Gallery has often expressed to us how grateful they are for the advice that members of your staff have given them, and in case we have neglected to register our pleasure formally, we would like to add that we are immensely impressed with the National Gallery's magnificent installation of the exhibit.

One matter that we wanted to confirm with you in making final arrangements for the remaining segments of the exhibition is conservation. As you recall, Meredith Palmer and I expressed to you the Department's desire to have a single conservator available at all packing points throughout the time the objects were under US Government liability. This, as we explained, would enable the US side to have one person who could consistently attest to the condition of the objects. Our understanding from you was that Vic Covey would be able to carry out such a function with the Department's financial assistance. At this time, we would like to confirm that he will accompany the exhibition to Kansas City and remain there as backup to the Nelson Gallery's conservator for the time the objects are being unpacked, that he will return to Kansas City in a similar capacity for the repacking in June, that he will travel with the works to San Francisco for their unpacking, return for the final US packing, and then accompany the objects to Peking as the US side's conservator.

We have discussed this arrangement with the Nelson Gallery; they find it reasonable and welcome Mr. Covey's expertise. We anticipate a similar response from San Francisco. If these plans meet with your expectations, please have your staff coordinate with the Nelson Gallery regarding reservations for the exact dates and flights and contact Norman Runkles, Assistant Chief, Contracts Branch, in the Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, (telephone 632-3615) to arrange for reimbursement of Mr. Covey's expenses.

Sincerely,

Murray Zinoman
China Program Officer
Office of East Asian and Pacific Programs
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

cc: Sickman, National Gallery
CU/ARTS:PSolmsen
L/ECP:EMAurer

Clearances: CU/EA:RNichols
CU/EA:LJohnson

CU/EA:NPalmer:nn

Telephone call from Charles Parkhurst, 2nd April, 1975

The text of the letter which should be sent to me would read as follows:

The following concerns the definition of the moment when the collection of exhibits in The Exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China becomes the responsibility of the Nelson Gallery Foundation, Kansas City.

It is our understanding, and we agree, that the transfer of any legal responsibility for The Exhibition of the Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China from the National Gallery to the Nelson Gallery Foundation shall occur the moment the door of each aircraft in turn has been sealed the final and last time prior to takeoff of the aircraft from Dulles Airport.

Air Transportation

Telephone conversation with Peter Davidock, Registrar, National Gallery, 10 a.m., Thursday, March 13th.

He says there is no reason why the planes couldn't take off on the 8th of April. He thinks they would be packed by the 7th and could deliver them to Dulles on the 8th.

The Chinese request that the planes depart one hour apart.

It takes one hour by truck from the National Gallery to Dulles, and approximately four hours unloading time. *

From Toronto the planes arrived at about 5 p.m. and the trucks arrived at the National Gallery at approximately 10 p.m.

Riding each plane was a Sky Marshall, who sat up in the cockpit with the pilot.

One Chinese curator and Mr. Covey on the plane.

On the other plane there was another curator, Mr. Davidock, and a Sky Marshall. They had some extra seats put in, but there were not used.

*Four hours unloading time from Toronto. Approximately the same amount of time estimated for loading.

The Chinese Exhibition

The Exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China
The William Rockhill Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum of Fine Arts
April 20th to June 8th, 1975

中華人民共和國出土文物展覽

MEMORANDUM

March 13, 1975

To: L. Sickman
From: R. Martin *RLM*
Subject: TWA Contract
cc: M. Wilson

This is a reminder that before TWA can write the contract, they need a specific date for reservation of the aircraft.

In any conversations you or Marc may have with the National Gallery in the next several days, please press them on the need for this information.

We'll also need to know about the curators and others actually traveling with the exhibition and the number of seats required.

*Unloading
at Gallery*

April 8 - 10:00 AM

*no. of curators and
others as yet undetermined*

Telephone call from Charles Parkhurst. March 14th, 1975. 4:00 pm.

1. The National Gallery must have a list of those cases which we want as soon as possible as they are preparing their demounting schedule.
2. They would prefer it if Russell Williams could pick up the empty cases and pack them elsewhere.
3. They will start dismounting the Exhibition on Monday the 31st of March. They think it will take them about 4 hours to set up their de-mounting process.

Airplanes

We should insist on 108 inch metal pallets as only these permit the central passage which must be present if passengers are traveling on the plane.

4. From the Washington end he estimates there will be 4 Chinese, 2 Sky Marshalls, 1 Conservator and 1 Registrar distributed between two planes. They hope to be at Dulles by 9 o'clock Tuesday morning the 8th of April, and a minimum of at least 2 hours loading time. They expect the first plane will be ready to take off at 11, and the second plane at 12, though hopefully this can be made earlier.
5. At the National Gallery the planes left Toronto at approximately 11 and 12. Trucks arrived at the National Gallery at 4:30, and were entirely unloaded between 9:30 and 10 o'clock. (Be sure they have a meal and various kinds of food available for the unloading. Chinese should have tea and cakes at the airport during the unloading).
6. Each case must be checked off by the curators and the Conservator as it is unloaded at the airport.
7. The National Gallery must be given written authority to ship, and we must assume all responsibility when the doors are closed on the packed aircraft.
8. Although the Chinese and other passengers are traveling on a charter plane, regulations require that they have tickets.
9. The Chinese request that shipment be given some 16 cartons of their handout catalogues. Parkhurst suggested these be put on the truck.
10. Unless other arrangements are spoken for, they will destroy the labels during the dismantling. They will try and save the large labels mounted on plaques in the entrance corridor.

L.S. gave Parkhurst the name of Jim Gravatte (466 5742) as cargo sales agent for TWA in Washington.

Telephone conversation on Wednesday, March 19th, 1975, 10:00 am, with Charles Parkhurst.

On the matter of who will represent the State Department at the opening, consult Murray Zinoman.

He also said that we would have to have a timetable and diagram of how the Chinese get into the dining room, where they will sit; a chart showing how they will move from their table to the microphone, and the order of speakers.

Toasts should be made to the President of the United States and to Chairman Mao. The speeches which we make must be cleared by the State Department, and Parkhurst will send us transcriptions of the speeches made at the National Gallery as models.

Insurance: He had received a memorandum from Amory on insurance, but wasn't able to find it, but will look it up and forward it to us. He will also speak to Amory about the matter.

CAT

3rd April, 1975

C Charles Parkhurst, Esq.,
Assistant Director,
National Gallery of Art,
6th St. and Constitution Avenue N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20565

Dear Mr. Parkhurst,

O The following concerns the definition of the moment when the
collection of exhibits in The Exhibition of Archaeological Finds
of the People's Republic of China becomes the responsibility of the
Nelson Gallery Foundation, Kansas City.

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aircraft in turn has been sealed the final and last time prior to
takeoff of the aircraft from Dulles Airport.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

Office of
LAURENCE SICKMAN
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART
The William Rockhill Nelson Trust
ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
4525 OAK STREET
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111
(816) 561-4000

UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES:
MILTON MCGREEVY
MENESEE D. BLACKWELL
HERMAN R. SUTHERLAND

3rd April, 1975

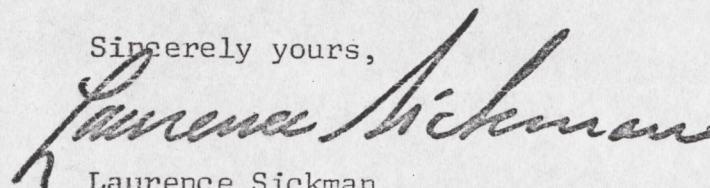
Charles Parkhurst, Esq.,
Assistant Director,
National Gallery of Art,
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Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

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C
O
P
Y

CAT

Parkhurst

22nd May, 1975

Charles Parkhurst, Esq.,
Assistant Director,
National Gallery of Art,
6th St. and Constitution Ave., N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20565

Dear Charlie,

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Barrass have been here yesterday and today. It was so good of you to introduce them to me. They are as delightful as they are knowledgeable.

Things are going very well, with attendance varying from around 4,700 to 7,500 a day, just about all we can handle physically.

Could one of your secretaries dig up the agreement of release or whatever one calls it, that is the letter we signed assuming responsibility when the exhibition left Washington. It has occurred to me that very much the same wording could be used when we turn the show over to San Francisco.

All the best.

Yours in haste,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf